

April 5, 1983

LB 142

Mr. President, the next motion I have on the bill is from Senator DeCamp. He would move to suspend Rule 6, Section 3 and Rule 7, Section 3 and vote without further debate or amendment on the advancement of 142.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, do you want to speak on your motion?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, I was only going to do that if there were a host of amendments but how many amendments are up there? Well, let them try it, what the heck, put that after that.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Do you have another motion, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Cullan would move to amend the bill. (Read Cullan amendment found on page 1326, Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, this will be the last amendment which I will propose at this state of debate on LB 142. The amendment is very simple. You heard the Clerk read it. As Senator Carsten said, any individual in the State of Nebraska should have the freedom to choose whether or not they want to procure the services of a chiropractor, and if that is the case, so be it. If that is the philosophy of the Legislature, then we should accept it but we should also apply the same philosophy to the insurance laws of the State of Nebraska with respect to reimbursing for services provided by health care practitioners. If we are adopting the laissez faire, let everyone pick what they want to do, philosophy of regulating health care providers, fine. Then let's also apply that same philosophy to insurance carriers. All this amendment says, all this amendment does is to allow the insurance industry to draft their contracts that they have with individuals around the State of Nebraska to either include or not to include the services which are provided by chiropractors. Now I think that is fair. I think that is reasonable and I hope that we would adopt this amendment to LB 142 which would at least take the...eliminate the problem of having all of us pay for services by those who are not qualified or trained to perform them. So I would hope that you would adopt this amendment to LB 142. I think it would have the effect of eliminating, if certainly...if not lowering the adverse health care costs associated with the expansion of the scope of practice of chiropractors.